

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:231
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
CORRUPTION IN DEPARTMENT OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Catch the whales, let off the mackerels' appearing in 'The Indian Express' dated December 20, 1999.
- (b) if so, the facts reported in the news-item;
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to root out the rampant prevalent corruption in other Departments his Ministry like Central Excise and Income tax consequent to evasion of taxes due to connivance, nexus amassing ill-gotten wealth both by officials and the business community?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The new-item mainly refers to action taken by the Government in respect of the CBI raid at Sahar International Airport and alleged smuggling of 1300 mobile hand sets worth Rs. 1.5 crores at Sahar Airport.

(c): 4 Officers have been placed under suspension, and 10 Officers have been transferred.

(d): Steps have been taken for improving the vigilance administration, based on instructions issued from time to time, by the Central Vigilance Commission. Instructions have been issued to the field formations for toning up administration from vigilance angle. The Central Board of Excise & Customs have launched an on-line vigilance alert system to deal with complaints from the public.

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